

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 92

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the East Tennessee Technology Access Center, Inc., upon the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary organizations that are a credit to this State; and

WHEREAS, one such notable organization is the East Tennessee Technology Access Center, Inc. (ETTAC), which was established in March 1988 by a group of people whose mission was to enable people with disabilities in East Tennessee to reach their potential for participating in the mainstream of society through innovative uses of technology; and

WHEREAS, the ETTAC began with approximately 300 square feet of space in the basement of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, with one volunteer and one part-time staff person, and has since expanded to a building that has more than 20,000 square feet, which was purchased in August 2010; and

WHEREAS, the organization has four programs: Education, Vocational, Community Living, and Outreach, which aid unserved and underserved groups. For the last three years, the ETTAC has focused on creating small community-based resource centers for people with disabilities in rural areas of East Tennessee, with small centers in Hancock and Scott counties, as well as two inner-city low-income housing units in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, the organization received its first contract with the Tennessee Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services, to provide rehabilitation technology services to clients in twenty-four counties of East Tennessee, a contract which has been renewed annually; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the ETTAC gave away and loaned more than \$93,000 worth of equipment to 413 people with disabilities and their families, with services provided to nearly 2,000 people in East Tennessee in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the ETTAC receives funding from numerous organizations, including the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Tennessee Department of Health, the Tennessee Arts Commission, the Arts and Culture Alliance, and four area United Way stores: Anderson, Blount, Jefferson, and Knox; and

WHEREAS, as the organization celebrates its twenty-fifth year of outstanding service on March 21, 2013, it is appropriate to honor the organization for helping to provide technology services to those with disabilities in East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the ETTAC is most assuredly worthy of this General Assembly's recognition and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the East Tennessee Technology Access Center, Inc., for its tireless dedication to providing technology services to people with disabilities in East Tennessee, congratulate its volunteers on the occasion of the organization's twenty-fifth anniversary, and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.